GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:32
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2008
CLEARANCE FOR PENDING COAL PROJECTS
Agarwal Shri Dhirendra;Nayak Shri Ananta

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has not accorded its approval for several coal projects due to which coal production is not as per requirements;

(b) if so, the number of projects pending for approval alongwith the extent of delay as on date and the reason therefor company-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to expedite their approval; and

(d) the time by which all the projects are likely to be approved?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL(DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a)to(d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT AS MENTIONED IN THE REPLY TO STARRED QUESTION NO. 32 FOR ANSWER ON 27.2.2008 ASKED BY SHRI ANANTA NAYAK AND DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL REGARDING CLEARANCE FOR PENDING COAL PROJECTS

(a)&(b): Currently eight coal sector projects are at various stages of approval in the government.The details are as under:

S. No.	Name of the Project and Company	CapacitY Million tonnes per annum (mtpa)	Present Status
1.	Amrapali Opencast project(OCP) Central Coalfields Limited (CCL)	12.0	Awaiting forestry clearance.Proposal pending with State Government of Jharkhand.
2.	Chuperbita OCP Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL)	4.0	Awaiting forestry clearance.Proposal pending with State Government of Jharkhand.
3.	Hura OCP Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL)	3.0	Awaiting forestry clearance.Proposal pending with State Government of Jharkhand.
4.	Gevra OCP Expn. South Eastern Coalfields Limited. (SECL)	10.0 (incremental)	Awaiting Environmental Management Plan(EMP) and forestry clearance.Forestry proposal pending with State Government of Chattisgarh.
5.	Magadh OCP Central Coalfields Limited (CCL)	20.0	Awaiting EMP clearance from Ministry of Environment & Forests (MOEF).
6.	Khadia OCP Expn. Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL)	6.0 (incremental)	Awaiting forestry clearance. Proposal pending with MOEF

7. Dipka OCP Expn. South Eastern Coalfields Limited. (SECL)	5.0 (incremental)	PIB note circulated and PIB meeting to be held.
8. Kakatiya Longwall Underground Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL)	2.75	PIB note circulated and PIB meeting to be held.

The role of the concerned state governments and the Union Ministry of Environment & Forests is most important in according timely environmental and forestry clearances to coal projects.Though delay in approval of projects affects the scheduled/phased production,however, the possible loss in production is made up by enhancing production from other mines/projects.Coal India Limited has been achieving or nearly achieving the coal production targets every year.

(c)&(d): Government is taking all the necessary steps for expediting clearance of projects which include reducing the levels of scrutiny by doing away with the 'in principle clearance' of the Planning Commission and pre PIB meetings for coal and power sector projects.Regular monitoring at Ministry level to direct coal companies for compliance of the queries raised by the appraising agencies and regular follow up with the concerned State Governments for both forestry and environmental clearances and other related matters.The pending projects will be approved after obtaining the necessary forestry and environmental clearances.